Mylyn 3.7 Release Review

Planned Review Date: March 14, 2012
Communication Channel: mylyn-dev@eclipse.org

Introduction

- The Mylyn Application Lifecycle Tools Top-Level Project is an open source collaborative software development project dedicated to providing an extensible, standards-based platform to address a broad range of needs of accessing task and application lifecycle management tools and services using the Eclipse platform.

- The mission of the project is to provide:

  - Frameworks and APIs for Eclipse-based task and Application Lifecycle Management (ALM)
  - Exemplary tools for task-focused programming within the Eclipse IDE.
  - Reference implementations for open source ALM tools used by the Eclipse community and for open ALM standards such as OSLC

Overview

- The Mylyn project was created in 2005 as a Technology project and moved to the Tools top-level project in 2007. Mylyn was restructured and promoted to a top-level project in 2010.

- In order to keep up with its rate of adoption, the Mylyn project is continuing to evolve APIs for Application Lifecycle Management (ALM) tools. Since its inception, Mylyn has released multiple times per annual release cycle, and is continuing to do that for Juno.

Mylyn

The Mylyn 3.7 release includes the following sub-projects:

- Mylyn Builds
- Mylyn Commons
- Mylyn Context
- Mylyn Docs
- Mylyn Reviews
- Mylyn Tasks
- Mylyn Versions

Project Plan:

- http://eclipse.org/projects/project-plan.php?projectid=mylyn

New Features

- http://eclipse.org/mylyn/new/weekly.php

Mylyn Builds

Deliverables included in Mylyn Builds 0.9:
- Builds Framework
- Hudson/Jenkins Connector

Project Plan:
- http://eclipse.org/projects/project-plan.php?projectid=mylyn.builds

Supported Build Servers:
- Hudson 2.1, 2.2
- Jenkins 1.427 and later

New Features:
- The builds editor shows a hierarchical list of artifacts.
- The Hudson connector supports form-based, HTTP and certificate authentication.

Mylyn Commons

Deliverables included in Mylyn Commons 3.7:

- Discovery Framework
- Identity Framework
- Interaction Monitoring Framework
- Notification Framework
- Repository Framework
- Transport Framework
- HTTP Transport
- SOAP Transport
- XML-RPC Transport
- UI Toolkit

Project Plan:

- http://eclipse.org/projects/project-plan.php?projectid=mylyn.commons

Mylyn Commons

New Features:
- Components were restructured and provisional packages were promoted to API.
- An extension point is provided for opening URLs in rich editors.
- An transport layer based on Apache HttpComponents HttpCore and HttpClient has been added.

Mylyn Context

Deliverables included in Mylyn Context 3.7:

- Context Framework
- Java Bridge
- C/C++ Bridge
- PDE Bridge
- Resource Bridge
- IDE Integration

Project Plan:

- http://eclipse.org/projects/project-plan.php?projectid=mylyn.context

New Features:

- Editor mementos are stored in the file system rather than in the preferences store.
- Dependencies on Mylyn Tasks have been moved to a new component to improve reuse.

Mylyn Docs

Deliverables included in Mylyn Docs 1.6:

- HtmlText
- WikiText

Project Plan:

- http://eclipse.org/projects/project-plan.php?projectid=mylyn.docs

Supported markup languages:

- Creole, Confluence, MediaWiki, Textile, TracWiki and Twiki.

New Features:

- API and an Ant task for generating WikiText from content such as HTML or other formats has been added.
- WikiText supports the Creole markup language.
- An ANT task for converting wiki markup to the EPUB format has been added.

Mylyn Incubator

Mylyn Incubator does not do releases by definition and does not participate in Mylyn releases.

Mylyn Reviews

- Deliverables included in Mylyn Reviews 0.9:
  - Gerrit Connector
  - Reviews Framework

Project Plan:
- http://eclipse.org/projects/project-plan.php?projectid=mylyn.reviews

Supported Review Systems:
- Gerrit 2.2.1, 2.2.2

New Features:
- Open ID authentication is supported.
- Comparing patch sets is support.
- The EGit import wizard shows Git repositories from configured Gerrit servers.
- Gerrit change IDs and comment link patterns are hyperlinked in the task editor and short links are supported.

Mylyn Tasks

- Deliverable included in Mylyn Tasks 3.7:
    - Bugzilla Connector
    - Tasks Framework
    - Trac Connector

- Project Plan:
    - http://eclipse.org/projects/project-plan.php?projectid=mylyn.tasks

- Supported Task Repositories:
    - Bugzilla 3.6.8, 4.0.5, 4.2.0
    - Trac 0.10.5, 0.11.7, 0.12.3

- New Features
    - A Lucence based index has been implemented for the Task List.
    - The query page API has been extended to support configuration refresh and clearing of input fields.
    - Extension points for monitoring task activation and task submission have been added.

Mylyn Versions

Deliverables included in Mylyn Versions 0.9:

- CVS Connector
- Git Connector

Project Plan:

- http://eclipse.org/projects/project-plan.php?projectid=mylyn.versions

New Features:

- A connector for Subversion based on Subclipse has been added.

Non-code aspects(1)

- Localization/externalization
    - The code base has been externalized for Mylyn 3.1.
    - Mylyn is now available for translation via Eclipse Babel.
- User documentation
    - Eclipse help content that is generated from the Wiki has been added for Mylyn 3.1.
    - The webinar on Mylyn 3.0 is the most viewed webinar on Eclipse Live.
    - The web site has been restructured for easier access to Downloads, Support and Getting Started documentation.
- Developer documentation
    - Wiki-based Contributors Guide
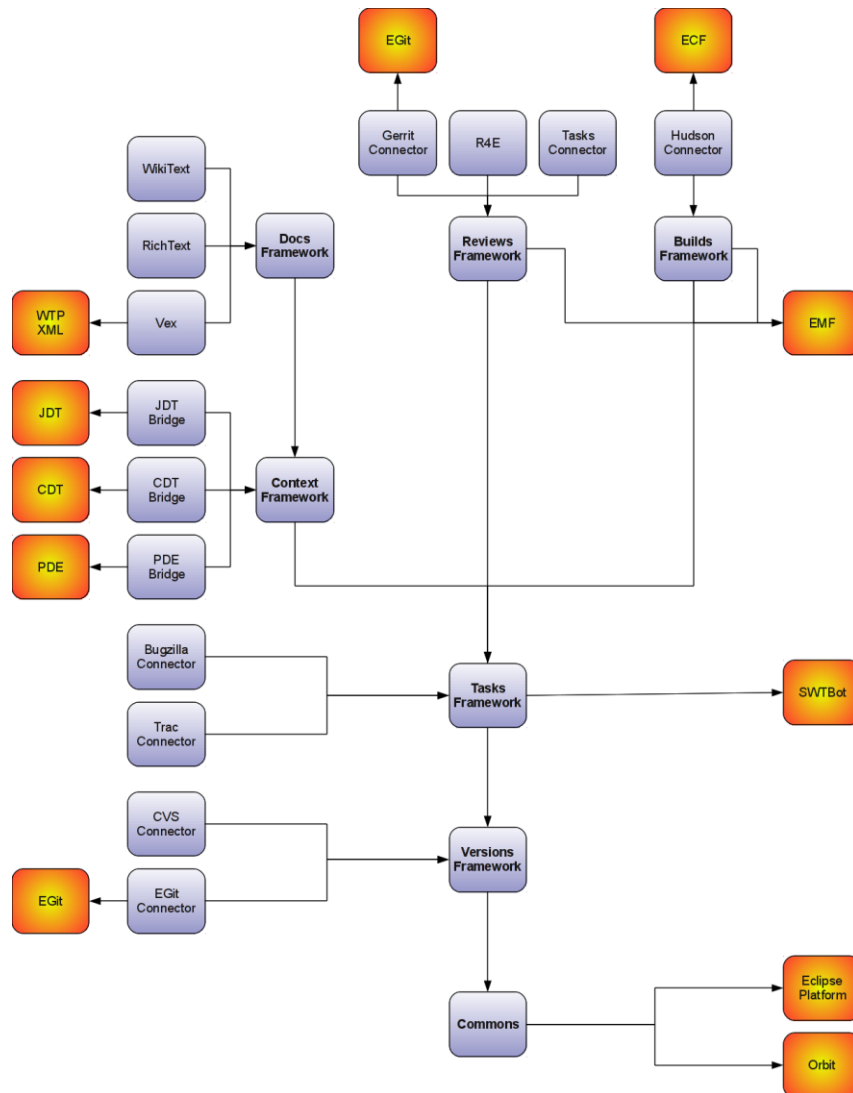   - Wiki-based Integrators Guide

Non-code aspects(2)

- **Release Engineering**
    - The build system is based on Maven Tycho.
- **Continuous Integration**
    - Tests are executed on a regular schedule on the Eclipse.org Hudson instance
    - Test results and build artifacts are available to anyone.

APIs

- No breaking API changes from 3.0
- API tooling is used to verify that binary backwards compatibility is maintained and no API regressions are introduced.
- APIs are consumed by 3rd parties who provide regular feedback
- All API changes are tracked in Bugzilla on bugs tagged as [api]

  - Notes on API additions since Mylyn 3.0:
    http://wiki.eclipse.org/Mylyn/Porting_Guide

- Connector core APIs are available to standalone environments and do not require an OSGi container

Frameworks

- Builds API
- Commons API
  - Repository API
  - Identity API
  - Monitor API
- Context API
- Reviews API
- Tasks API
  - Team API
- Versions API
- WikiText API

Architectural Issues

- Components in Mylyn Commons were restructured and provisional packages were promoted to API. Consumers are strongly encouraged to consume the new APIs for Mylyn 3.7 based extensions. The Porting Guide at http://wiki.eclipse.org/Mylyn/Porting_Guide#Mylyn_Commons has more details.

Tool Usability (Unchanged since 3.0)

- Maturity
  - Constant stream of stable releases
  - Bundled as part of EPP distributions
  - Committers work from HEAD, contributors from weekly builds, community from milestone releases
- User feedback says it best
  - "..arguably the most productivity-enhancing idea since background compilation and all of the things that enables (namely refactoring and syntax highlighting). I just don't know how I ever was able to read and understand the Eclipse sources (or the sources of other large projects I've worked on) before Mylar, it's just that good." (David Orme)
  - "I would like to commend you on this very good tool. It has increased my productivity by 3 folds - no kidding..." (Deepak Devje)
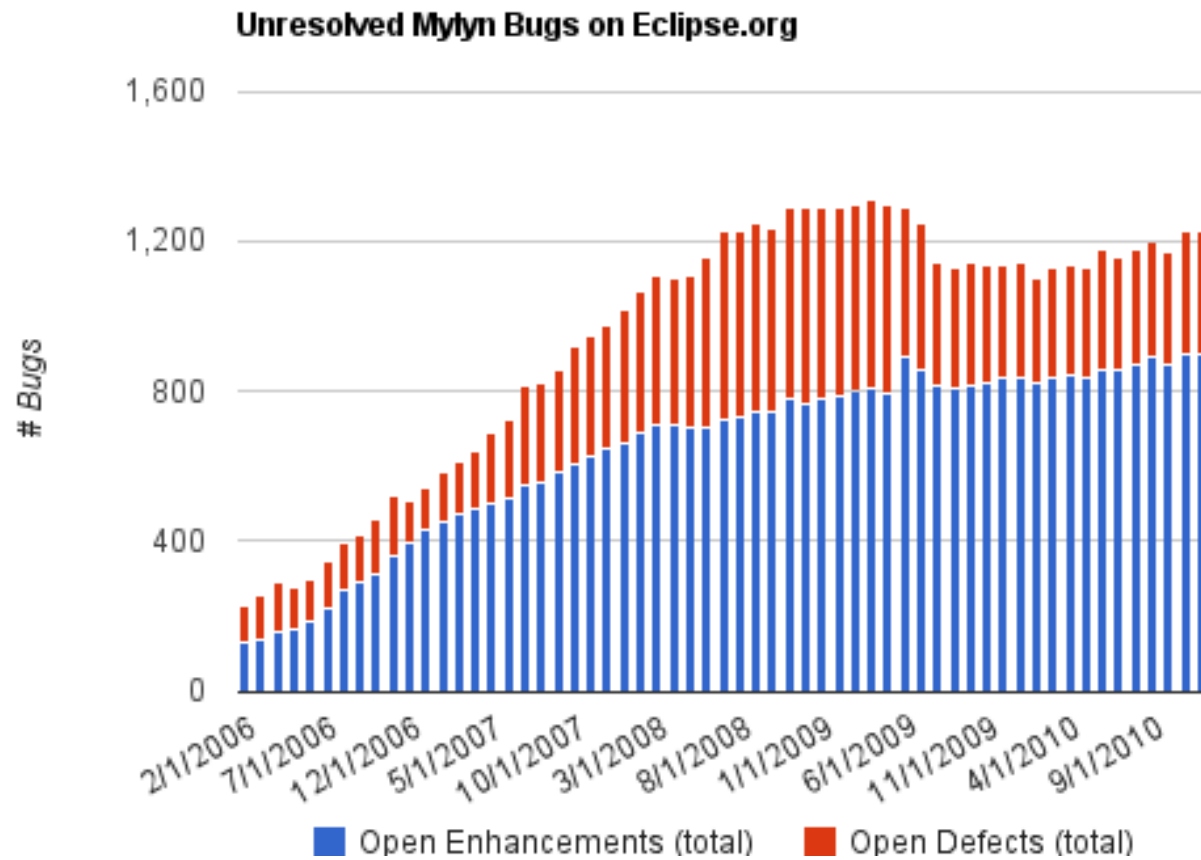
End-of-Life

Active Streams:

- Mylyn 3.7 supports Eclipse 4.2, 3.8, 3.7, and 3.6.

End-of-Live Streams:

- Mylyn 3.6 support Eclipse 3.7, 3.6 and 3.5.

Bugzilla

- Bugs resolved

  - Mylyn 3.7 (March 21, 2012): 347 (as of February 27, 2012)

  - Mylyn 3.6 (June 22, 2011): 93 (as of May 30, 2011)

  - Mylyn 3.5 (March 16, 2011): 324

  - Mylyn 3.4 (June 23, 2010): 171

  - Mylyn 3.3 (Oct. 26th, 2009): 166

  - Mylyn 3.2 (June 24, 2009): 333

  - Mylyn 3.1 (March 4, 2009): 431

  - Mylyn 3.0 (June 25, 2008): 493

Community

Unresolved Mylyn Bugs on Eclipse.org

Legend: Open Enhancements (total), Open Defects (total)

Standards (Unchanged since 3.1)

- Mylyn requires J2SE 1.5, provides warning if installed on 1.4
    - Key driver for using1.5 was the benefits of generics-aware APIs

UI Usability (Unchanged since 2.1)

- Accessibility
    - No review for this release, but following accessibility guidelines
    - http://www.eclipse.org/articles/Article-Accessibility/index.html
- Follow the User Interface Guidelines
    - Focus on consistent visual design, UI elements, icons
    - http://wiki.eclipse.org/index.php/User_Interface_Guidelines
- Validated UI usability with field study
    - For details see:
      http://kerstens.org/mik/publications/2006-11-mylar-fse.pdf
    - Mylyn Monitor is being used to gather usage feedback:
      http://mylyn.eclipse.org/monitor/upload/UsageAnalysisServlet

Schedule

- Project plan: http://www.eclipse.org/projects/project-plan.php?projectid=mylyn

Release	Date	Platform Release	Notes
Mylyn 3.6	June 22, 2011	Eclipse 3.6.2 and 3.7	Indigo
Mylyn 3.6.1	August 9, 2011	Eclipse 3.6.2 and 3.7	
Mylyn 3.6.2	September 23, 2011	Eclipse 3.6.2 and 3.7	Indigo SR1
Mylyn 3.6.3	October 26, 2011	Eclipse 3.6.2 and 3.7.1	
Mylyn 3.6.4	November 18, 2011	Eclipse 3.6.2 and 3.7.1	
Mylyn 3.6.5	February 24, 2012	Eclipse 3.6.2 and 3.7.2	Indigo SR2
Mylyn 3.7	March 21, 2012	Eclipse 3.6.2, 3.7.2, 3.8M6 and 4.2M6	Juno M6
Mylyn 3.8	June 27, 2012	Eclipse 3.6.2, 3.7.2, 3.8 and 4.2	Juno

Communities

- Users
    - Lively community on newsgroup and bug reports
    - Articles and blogs by community members
- Developers
    - Contributor documentation on Eclipsepedia
    - Lively community on mylyn-dev and bug reports
- Integrators
    - Integrator documentation on Eclipsepedia
    - Separate mylyn-integrators mailing list removes need for integrators to watch the higher-traffic mylyn-dev
    - Specific discussions on "[connector]" and "[bridge]" bug reports, as well as "manage integration with Foobar" bug reports

Projects and Committers

- The R4E component which was part of the Mylyn Reviews has project has been promoted to a sub-sub-project.
- The Vex and Mylyn Intent projects have been created under Mylyn Docs.
- The Model Focusing Tools project has been created under Mylyn Context.
- Sam Davis and David Green have joined the Mylyn Tasks project as committers.

IP Log

- Contributions are tracked in Git commits through setting the commit author accordingly or flagged as +iplog as they are applied.
- Aggregated IP log:
  - http://eclipse.org/projects/ip_log.php?projectid=mylyn,mylyn.builds,mylyn.commons,mylyn.context,mylyn.docs,mylyn.reviews,mylyn.tasks,mylyn.versions
- Sub-project IP logs:
  - Mylyn Builds: http://eclipse.org/projects/ip_log.php?projectid=mylyn.builds
  - Mylyn Commons: http://eclipse.org/projects/ip_log.php?projectid=mylyn.commons
  - Mylyn Context: http://eclipse.org/projects/ip_log.php?projectid=mylyn.context
  - Mylyn Docs: http://eclipse.org/projects/ip_log.php?projectid=mylyn.docs
  - Mylyn Reviews: http://eclipse.org/projects/ip_log.php?projectid=mylyn.reviews
  - Mylyn Tasks: http://eclipse.org/projects/ip_log.php?projectid=mylyn.tasks
  - Mylyn Versions: http://eclipse.org/projects/ip_log.php?projectid=mylyn.versions

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IP Log(2)

- Mylyn Commons, Mylyn Context, Mylyn Docs, and Mylyn Tasks ship code that was migrated from the Mylyn tools project for which contributions were tracked in a CSV file located at http://www.eclipse.org/mylyn/doc/mylyn-iplog.csv.

- Since the 3.4.3 release contributions are tracked through the automatic IP log but contributions applied in earlier releases are listed in the CSV file. It is planned to flag contributions listed in the IP log for a future release to fully migrate to the automatic IP log.

IP Issues

- None.

Release review version

- These slides are based on the following version of the Release review document
  - Version 032 – January 15, 2006